The Artist and the Cat - Chapter 4

After breakfast was over, the artist went to the kitchen to wash the dirty dishes, utensils and glasses. Rita decided to pitch in by drying the cleaned items with a small towel while Runt would then put them away for later use.

Artist: "Thanks, you two. You've definitely saved me quite a bit of time by pitching in."

Rita: "It's the least we could do, honey. After all, it was a really good breakfast."

Runt: "Yeah. Definitely, definitely good."

Artist: "Now that everything is cleaned up, I'll leave this frying pan in the sink with some water in it to easily clean it later. Now I can give you two a guided tour of your new home."

Rita: "Sounds great! Can you carry me again, Mr. Artist?"

Artist: "I'd love to! C'mon, Runt!"

The artist picks up Rita and carries her just like the night before when they first met back at the bridge. Runt follows the artist while jumping with joy as the trio go on a tour of what has now become their new home together.

Artist: "Well... You've already seen the bedroom, the kitchen, the dining hall, and the bathroom so there is just the living room, the laundry room, and the backyard."

Rita: "Ooh... I'd love to see the living room!"

Runt: "I wanna see the backyard. Definitely, definitely wanna see that!"

The artist takes Rita and Runt to the living room first. They see that there is a comfortable looking couch, a television, a VCR, and several video game consoles.

Rita: "Wow! I'm gonna love this room! It's so comfy looking and we're going to have some really romantic moments together..."

Runt: "I love the T.V. and I wanna try the games too!"

Artist: "You will, Runt. I can teach the both of you how to use everything in the house if you want."

Rita: "I'd love that..."

The trio now head to the laundry room. Inside are a washer and dryer, some paint cans, a toolbox, and several boxes filled with assorted knickknacks such as ornaments for various holidays such as Christmas, Easter and Halloween.

Artist: "This is where I wash any dirty clothes, towels, and bedsheets. Since you two already wear fur coats, you won't be using this room too much."

Rita: "Are you kidding? I'd love to learn how to wash your laundry for you!"

Artist: "My... Aren't you the little housewife all of a sudden..."

Rita's face turns a bright red. Runt notices right away and starts to chuckle.

Runt: "Boy, Rita. You're as red as a tomato!"

Artist: "Oh, dear. I'm sorry that I embarrassed you, Rita..."

Rita: "It's okay. I kinda like that nickname... I think it's really sweet."

Rita gives the artist a kiss on the cheek and the trio now head for the backyard. But before they head outside, the curious kitty notices a locked door.

Rita: "What's that room, sweetie?"

Artist: "Oh, I'm saving that room for last. You'll love it!"

Runt: "Ooh... Ooh... The yard!"

The trio head outside and Rita and Runt finally see the backyard for the first time. The playful pup runs around the yard in circles as the artist is still carrying Rita.

Rita: "Wow... This yard is pretty nice. We can really have some tender moments out here..."

Artist: "I'm glad you two like it so much. I need to cut the grass pretty soon since it's already starting to grow quite a bit."

Rita: "That's all right. By the way, do you have any patio furniture?"

Artist: "I have some plastic chairs. I keep them inside when I'm not using them so they don't get damaged by the weather or stolen."

Rita: "That's a smart idea. Are they in that locked room of yours?"

Artist: "Yes, they are. Hey, Runt! Let's go see the last room of the house!"

Runt: "Okay! I definitely, definitely want to see what's inside!"

The trio head back inside the house and are now at the locked door. The artist takes a key that was hanging nearby and unlocks the door. Rita and Runt's eyes light up as they see what is inside.

Artist: "Welcome to my private art studio! This is where I keep all my art projects as well as other important items such as sketchbooks, paints, wooden stools for still

life drawings, and much more. There is also my computer and printer, my computer chair, a wooden table, and the plastic chairs we were talking about earlier. This used to be the family room, but I converted it into an art studio since I was living alone for the past several years."

Rita: "Well, you're not alone anymore. We can be your family now. Right, Runt?"

Runt: "Yeah. We are definitely, definitely family!"

Artist: "Thanks, you two. I'm glad that we are living together as a family now. We're going to be sharing a lot of great memories together. Speaking of which, I need to get some important things for the both of you. We're going to the pet supply store!"

Rita: "Wait... Can we actually go with you there?"

Artist: "Sure! Pets are allowed to go there with their owners if they're on their best behavior."

Rita: "Heard that, Runt? We can go together!"

Runt: "Oh, boy! Sounds like lots of fun!"

Artist: "We can take my car there."

Rita: "Wait... You have a car?"

Artist: "Sure do! Let's all go for a ride to get you two some things for your new home."

The artist carries Rita while Runt happily follows him close behind as they head out the front door. The artist locks up and the two excited pets eagerly await seeing their new friend's car and look forward to their upcoming trip to the pet supply store.